*484. [The questioner (s) Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi and Shri Ram Jethmalani/were absent. For answer *vide* page 21.]

*485. [The questioner Vijay Kumar Rupani was absent. For answer *vide* page 22 .]

*486. [The questioner Shri T.T. V. Dhiriakaran was absent. For answer *vide* page 22.]

* 487. [The questioner Shri Aubalgan was absent. For answer *vide* page 23 .]

*488. [The questioner Shri K. Chandran Pillai was absent. For answer *vide* page 24.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRE QUESTIONS

Purchase of additional power during peak hours

t*484. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that additional power during the peak hours is being purchased by various States of the country at the rate of seven rupees per unit;

(b) if not, the facts in that regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this power is generally sold at the rate of Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 3.50 per unit;

(d) if not, the facts in that regard;

(e) whether the average cost of power generation in the country is less than its sale price; and

(f) if so, what is the average cost of power generation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) According to the information submitted by trading licensees to the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) in some cases electricity has been sold in short term trading at the rate of Rupees seven per unit. However, the weighted average sale price in short-term trading * during April-December, 2007 was Rs. 4.07 per unit.

(c) and (d) The energy being purchased in short-term trading is only 2 to 3% of the total energy availability and is sold by_the concerned distribution licensee to Consumer after pooling with the bulk of the energy purchased by them under the long-term contract. The tariff for sale of energy (pooled) by the distribution licensees is determined by the appropriate State Electricity Regulatory Commission in terms of Section 62 of Electricity Act, 2003.

The average all India rates realized for the financial year 2005-06 is Rs. 2.93 per unit.

(e) and (f) The average cost of generation for thermal, hydro and nuclear power for the year 2005-06 is Rs. 1.67 per unit.

tOriginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.